

## Living in Exile: How to Relate to Government. Pt3

### Romans 13:1-7

June 18, 2023

*"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor." (Romans 13:1-7; NKJ)*

*"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities..." (v 1)*

#### I. Three Scriptural Insights ...

Insight A. Christians realize that Earthly Governments are ordained by God.

Insight B. Christians understand that Earthly Governments are appointed by God.

Insight C. Christians comprehend God's purpose in Earthly Governments.

1. Earthly authorities act as God's agents!
2. Earthly authorities act as God's agents to administer justice.
3. Earthly authorities act as God's agents to defend against enemies.

### III. Three Scriptural Implications

#### Implication A. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ Earthly Governments.

*"Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render*

*therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor." (vv 5-7)*

**1. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ for the sake of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**2. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ the government.**

**3. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ to government offices.**

*"...fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor." (vv 5-7)*

*"Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (2 Peter 2:17; ESV)*

#### Implication B. Christians can \_\_\_\_\_ Earthly Governments!

*"And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, 'Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and uncondemned?' When the centurion heard that, he went and told the commander, saying, 'Take care what you do, for this man is a Roman.' Then the commander came and said to him, 'Tell me, are you a Roman?' He said, 'Yes.' The commander answered, 'With a large sum I obtained this citizenship.' And Paul said, 'But I was born a citizen.' Then immediately those who were about to examine him withdrew from him; and the commander was also afraid after he found out that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him." (Acts 22:25-29; NKJ)*

*"So Paul said, 'I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know. For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.'" (Acts 25:10-11; NKJ)*